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For Immediate Release

Owensboro native interns for Kentucky Court of Appeals Judge John Minton

Frankfort, Ky., June 20, 2005 — Owensboro native Mary Frances Callis is serving as a summer intern for Kentucky Court of Appeals Judge John D. Minton, Jr. Callis is attending Emory University Law School in Atlanta where she will begin her second year of study this fall.

As an intern for Judge Minton, Callis assists in reviewing case records, performing legal research, and drafting opinions to resolve issues in cases on appeal from Kentucky's trial courts and administrative agencies. She is working out of Judge Minton's offices, which are located at the Warren County Justice Center in Bowling Green.

Daviess County is among the 14 counties in Kentucky's 2nd Appellate District, which is represented by Judge Minton and Court of Appeals Judge Jeff Taylor, whose office is in Owensboro.

"The summer intern program benefits both the court and the student," Judge Minton said. "We offer Mary Frances valuable on-the-job experience inside the state appellate process, which is a great position to round out her legal training. At the same time, we benefit from her excellent legal research and writing skills."

Callis is the daughter of James and Karen Callis of Owensboro, and a 2000 graduate of Owensboro High School. She received her bachelor's degree from Agnes Scott College in Atlanta in 2004 with a major in political science and economics. While attending law school, Callis serves as secretary for the International Law Association and as a caseworker for Student Legal Services, which provides free legal services to the university community.

The Kentucky Court of Appeals, along with the Kentucky Supreme Court, was formed after the 1975 enactment of the Judicial Article that created Kentucky's unified court system. Fourteen judges, two elected from each of the seven appellate districts, serve on the Court of Appeals. On appeal, the case is not retried. Instead, the original trial record is reviewed, with attorneys presenting the contested legal issues to the court for decision. Court of Appeals judges are grouped into panels of three to review and decide cases, with the majority deciding the outcome. The panels do not sit permanently in one location, but move about the state to hear appeals. When the Court of Appeals publishes its decisions on cases, those decisions become the governing case law for similar cases in the trial courts of Kentucky.

The Administrative Office of the Courts is the operational arm of the Kentucky Court of Justice and supports the activities of more than 3,400 court system employees, including the elected offices of justices, judges and circuit court clerks. The AOC also executes the Judicial Branch budget.

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